

Oct. 26 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1993

U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

“Thomas Dine and Jill Buckley are each experienced in their fields, and I am confident they

will work hard to pursue AID’s important goals,” the President said.

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for an Assistant Secretary of Commerce

October 26, 1993

The President announced his intention today to nominate Washington, DC, lawyer Susan Esserman to be the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Import Administration.

“Susan Esserman is an expert in international trade policy who has been widely recognized

as one of the leaders in that field,” said the President. “I am pleased that she has agreed to serve at the Commerce Department.”

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks on Presenting Proposed Health Care Reform Legislation to the Congress

October 27, 1993

Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Senator Mitchell, Senator Dole, Congressman Gephardt, Congressman Michel. To all the distinguished Members of the Congress from both Houses and both parties who are here today, I thank you for your presence and your continuing interest. I thank you for giving Hillary and me the opportunity to come here to Statuary Hall.

This has been a remarkable process. I can never remember a time in which so many Members of Congress from both parties and both Houses had so consistent and abiding commitment to finding an answer to a problem that has eluded the country and the Congress for a very long time. I want to thank the hundreds, indeed thousands, of people who have worked on this process which has led to the bill. I want to thank the literally hundreds of Members of Congress who attended the health care university recently, an astonishing act of outreach by a bipartisan majority of the United States Congress to try to just come to grips with the enormous complexity and challenge of this issue.

I believe the “Health Security Act,” which I am here to deliver, holds the promise of a new era of security for every American and is

an important building block in trying to restore the kind of self-confidence that our country needs to face the future, to embrace the changes of the global economy, and to turn our Nation around. A nation which does not guarantee all of its people health care security at a time when the average 18-year-old will change jobs eight times in a lifetime and when the global economy is emerging in patterns yet to be defined can hardly have the confidence it needs to proceed forward. If our Nation does that, I believe we will do as we approach the 21st century what we have always done: We will find a way to adapt to the changes of this time; we will find a way to compete and win; we will find a way to make strength out of all of our diversity.

This legislation, therefore, literally holds the key to a new era for our economy, an era in which we can get our health care costs under control, free our businesses to compete better in the global economy, and make sure that the men and women who show up for work every day are more productive because they’re more secure and they feel that they can do two important jobs at once: be good members of their family, be good parents and good children, as